



**Winston H. Hickox**  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region

Over 50 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

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**Gray Davis**  
Governor

SFUND RECORDS CTR  
119922

October 10, 2001

**BRAD HOWARD**  
**WEBER AIRCRAFT**  
1819 W. OLIVE AVE.  
BURBANK, CA. 91506

### **REQUIREMENT FOR A TECHNICAL REPORT PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13267 - WEBER AIRCRAFT, 2820 ONTARIO ST., BURBANK, CA. 91504 (FILE NO. 104.1132)**

Dear Mr. BRAD HOWARD:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, ("Regional Board") is the public agency with primary responsibility to protect groundwater and surface water quality within the Los Angeles Region. This Regional Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), under the former Well Investigation Program in San Fernando Valley, conducted an initial investigation at your site and a few others. The objectives of that program were to identify sources of chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) found in the groundwater and remediate them, if needed. Information that has become recently available to the Regional Board demonstrates that some of the groundwater supply wells in the San Fernando Valley Groundwater Basin have been impacted by heavy metals, such as chromium. As a result, we are currently investigating potential sources of chromium contamination in the vicinity.

Chromium is a metallic element widely used in a variety of industrial applications and is present in groundwater in the San Fernando Valley. Chromium concentrations exceed current safe drinking water standards at some locations in the San Fernando Valley and chromium threatens the drinking water resource of the basin. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for total chromium in California drinking water is 50 parts per billion (ppb).

For your information, the United States Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in 1980 to protect public health and the environment by investigating and remediating sites contaminated with hazardous substances. CERCLA, also known as the Superfund Program, provides the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) with the authority to require those responsible for contamination to pay for and/or participate in the investigation and cleanup efforts. California's Porter-Cologne Act provides the Regional Board with similar authority. US EPA and the Regional Board use their enforcement authority to investigate and remediate sources of contamination that pollute the eastern San Fernando Valley soils and groundwater. The current chromium investigation, lead by the Regional Board, is focused upon identifying individuals and companies responsible for

### **California Environmental Protection Agency**

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chromium contamination in the eastern San Fernando Valley and holding them responsible for investigation and remediation.

With respect to the current chromium investigation, we have reviewed the case file and report(s) for the subject site and determined that chromium related compounds were used and stored on-site. In addition, assessment data collected from the site indicated that significant levels of chromium were detected in the soil and/or groundwater beneath the site. Based on this information, there is sufficient data to warrant further investigation of chromium impacts at your property.

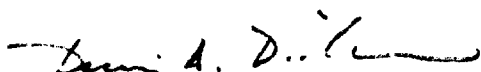
Therefore, we are requesting that you do the following:

1. Complete the enclosed Chemical Use Questionnaire intended to gather more detailed information about use on your site of heavy metals or use of inorganic compounds from which heavy metals are derived.
2. Return the completed forms to the Regional Board by November 9, 2001.

After we review your completed questionnaire, Regional Board staff will follow up with a site inspection. We will either request that you submit a site assessment workplan or recommend that "no further action" is necessary.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, or would like to schedule a meeting, please call Dr. Arthur Heath at (213) 576-6725 or Mr. Dixon Oriola at (213) 576-6803.

Sincerely,



Dennis A. Dickerson  
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Chemical Use Questionnaire with Table I

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